



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

383 Hall of Administration/500 West Temple Street/Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

MINUTES OF THE 685th MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 685th meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on August 16, 2007 in Room 372 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those present follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nelson L. Atkins , Chair
Bertrum M. CeDillos
Gary Barr
Andrew Friedman
William Galloway
Neal S. Millard
Ann Jackson
Paul A. Jacobs

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Clifton Albright
Carol L. Rose
Sylvia Scott Hayes

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Heather Aubry, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
Detective Bernard Barber, Los Angeles Police Department
Devallis Rutledge, District Attorney's Office
Laura Green, Los Angeles County Office of the Public Defender
James Endman, Los Angeles Superior Court

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Dardy Chen, Superior Court
Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court
Margaret Little, Superior Court

STAFF

Rosemary Osuna, Commission Staff
Martha Arana, Commission Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Atkins called the 685th regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:33 p.m.

MEMBERS

Nelson L. Atkins
Chair

Paul A. Jacobs
Vice Chair

Clifton Albright
Bertrum CeDillos
Andrew Friedman
Gary L. Barr
William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
Neal S. Millard
Carol L. Rose
Sylvia Scott-Hayes

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner CeDillos. Introductions of Commissioners, Ex Officio Members, Staff and Guests followed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2007

On motion of Commissioner CeDillos, seconded by Commissioner Paul Jacobs, and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of July 19, 2007 were approved as submitted.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

Chair Atkins presented past Chair CeDillos with a plaque, on behalf of Supervisor Knabe, in recognition of his outstanding service from 1999 to 2000 and 2004 to 2007 as Judicial Procedures Commission Chair and for his dedicated service to the residents of the 4th Supervisorial District and the County of Los Angeles.

MISSION OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

Chair Atkins reviewed the Commission's mission:

JPC works in cooperation with the Superior Court, the California Judicial Council, and judicial and law enforcement organizations to improve the quality of services and programs in the court. The Commission shall in cooperation with the Court and the California Judicial Council:

- A. Recommend to the Board of Supervisors and the presiding judge of the Superior Court changes and improvements in judicial administration for the purposes of providing swifter, more efficient and more economical justice, and for reducing case loads and delays for litigants in the Superior Court;
- B. Determine the need for additional judges for the Superior Court;
- C. Make recommendations for action by the Board of Supervisors on legislation pertaining to the Superior Court;
- D. Receive and consider suggestions and recommendations by community groups and organizations and members of the public;
- E. To the extent feasible, facilitate the relationship between the Superior Court, the County and the public.

EXISTING PROGRAMS AND COMMITTEES

Chair Atkins reviewed the following existing programs and committees with the Commission:

- Child Custody Exchange Program
- Child Care Waiting Room Program
- Self Help Legal Access Centers
- Police Overtime Committee

Chair Atkins discussed the balance of \$18,000 owed to individuals and organizations involved in the Child Exchange Program at the Carson and Temple City sites and various avenues to pursue and secure funds to retire this debt.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED COMMISSION PROJECTS

Chair Atkins opened the meeting for a special roundtable discussion with Commissioners and Ex Officio members expressing possible future topics for speakers to address at upcoming Commission meetings as special presentations.

Recommendations of future topics received from the Commission were as follows:

- Revisit current committees to consider their continued feasibility, and if appropriate, update current membership, and establish a fundraising/external development committee to develop funds to assist the Commission in providing funding for the Child Custody Exchange and Child Care Waiting Rooms.
- Work with the Court system to provide jurors with access to the internet in an effort to improve juror attendance.
- Solicit recommendations from the officers of the Courts for County-related issues with which the Commission may assist. Additionally, consult with Board of Supervisors or the Justice Deputies in regards to any letters that may have been received with respect to the Courts.
- Invite Sheriff Baca and LAPD Chief Bratton to share their insight on any law enforcement issues within the judicial system.
- Invite a key representative(s) to discuss the feasibility of a separate entrance for attorneys at the courthouses.
- Invite the Commission to purchase folders with Acco fasteners and pens for individuals filing "Pro Per" to help expedite their legal process.
- Expose school age children to the judicial system by inviting children to attend court sessions or trials and arrange for the judges to speak with them during the break.
- Monitor pending legislation to support, oppose or make recommendations on issues which would have a beneficial or adverse effect on our courts.

**MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON
A FUTURE AGENDA)**

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ann Jackson announced that, at next Tuesday's meeting, the Board of Supervisors will vote on the funding to start construction on the Van Nuys Courthouse Child Waiting Room with County funds and a very substantial donation from the Valley Bar Association Foundation. Construction is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the 685th meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission adjourned at 1:30 p.m.